

NEWS RELEASE



***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney
Carol C. Lam***

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For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - April 7, 2005

United States Attorney Carol C. Lam announced that Leanne Marion Truitt, a former branch operations manager of North Island Federal Credit Union (NIFCU), was sentenced today by United States District Court John S. Rhoades to serve 15 months in custody for her role in the embezzlement and subsequent concealment of credit union funds. In addition to the fifteen-month custodial sentence, Judge Rhoades imposed a five-year term of supervised release and a restitution order for the full amount of the embezzled loss - \$338,317.60.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Orlando B. Gutierrez, who prosecuted the case, the court documents and Truitt's admissions established that, beginning in 2001 and continuing for over two years, Truitt abused her position of trust as a branch operations manager and actively concealed her embezzlement by knowingly and willfully making false financial entries in NIFCU's books. At the time the embezzlement was discovered, Truitt had been employed by NIFCU for approximately 10 years. During

her guilty pleas, Truitt admitted that she used her position as operations manager to facilitate the crimes and that she acted with the intent to injure and defraud NIFCU and to deceive NIFCU's officers and auditors.

United States Attorney Lam praised the efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for its investigation of the case. United States Attorney Lam stated, "This is an appropriate sentence for someone who violated the trust of the credit union and its customers."

DEFENDANT

Leanne Marion Truitt

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

Title 18, United States Code, Section 1006 - False Entries (Counts 7, 16, 17)

AGENCY

Federal Bureau of Investigation